

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? PLAINVIEW MW - 6-16-09

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

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Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☒ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I-023-001

My property is located in Mayaguez Township sec 27 and in Oakwood Township sec 27. The one proposed Transmission line crosses the middle of the farm in Oakwood Township. I am in the process of establishing a conservation easement on this property. The line also crosses within 50 yds of my home in Mayaguez Township and I am concerned to health & aesthetic issues. I am aware EMF does not cause disease, but can interfere with body physiology & I feel there can be definite problems living that close to the power line.

I-023-004

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

Natural & human resources. I think the natural look of the area needs to be preserved as much as possible. Also human needs have to be met. The proposed line across the north part of Lake Zumbro crosses close to many residents, the lake recreational area and camp grounds as well. This route follows close to the Zumbro River Valley which is one of the most scenic areas of southeast MN. It is unreasonable to destroy this beauty with a powerline that could easily be run along a road or railway.

### I-023-001

Your comment has been noted. Conservation easements and other existing types of property arrangements are evaluated by the applicant during the routing and siting phase of the project.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-023-003

I-023-002

Yes! I can not argue with the need of more electricity, but I am concerned with the route of the line. I am also concerned as to why a better method of protection from EMF has not been developed. Perhaps a better method of insulation or burying the line would be beneficial. It should also be routed thru an area where there is already power lines, roads, railways etc, not thru more remote natural beauty. Unfortunately we have very little nature that hasn't been destroyed.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: LEE A. NAUSS

Representing (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 46

City: ORONOCO State: MN Zip Code: 55960

Daytime Phone (Optional): 507-843-2684

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton- Rochester- La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-023-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-023-003

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

I-023-004

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.